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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China (Taiwan)

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SUBJECT Chinese Association of Literature and Fine Arts

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Chinese Association of Literature and Fine Arts, established on 4 May 1950, has about 300 members, 50 percent of whom are well-known intellectuals who were active on the mainland before the Communist regime. Most of the other members are hopeful neophytes. About 15 percent of the Association's members belong to the Kuomintang; the remainder have no party affiliations. This organization is receiving encouragement from the Nationalist Government.

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2. As a beginning project the Association called for the composition of songs. In one month members sent in more than 800 songs, most of them on an anti-totalitarian theme. A call has now been issued for articles, and for every thousand words contributed a writer is paid a fee sufficient to buy 50 pounds of rice.* Many members contribute patriotic articles and criticisms of Communist ideology to newspapers and other periodicals, as well as cartoons depicting Soviet cruelty to Chinese on the mainland. Dramatic societies present plays dealing with patriotism or some phase of Communism.

* Comment. Presumably writers are paid for accepted work. The general nature of the Association's output would indicate that it is not only encouraged but also subsidized by the Nationalist Government.

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